

RE 15C
113
9/17/02

Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 001560-373

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Mail Kazuhiro OHSUYE et al

Application No.: 09/402,093

Filed: September 29, 1999

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING
PEPTIDES USING A HELPER
PEPTIDE

)
)
)
)
)
)
)
)
)

Group Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: E. Slobodyansky

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 10, 2001, and together with a Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claim 24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please replace claims 1, 4 and 23 as follows.

1. (Amended) A process for producing a peptide having a desired biological activity, comprising the steps of:

(1) culturing cells transformed with an expression vector having the nucleotide sequence encoding a peptide of interest that has a helper peptide added thereto, or a fusion protein that has a protective peptide further added to the peptide of interest that